

dear Helen - on these most inter-
esting events in your family
circle. I hope the young mothers
and their infants are doing
well - the best weather not
withstanding - and that the
young fathers are duly grate-
ful - and that they will aspire
to perfect fidelity in the discharge
of their paternal duties -

Hoping to meet you at
No 554 Washington St - on
Thursday - I am as ever

Most affectionately

Yours

Samuel J. May

I am glad to perceive, that
the birth of grandchildren has
not brought to you any pain-
ful sense of advanced age.
Toothless as you are - unless
your loss, like mine, has been
artificially supplied - you
seem to be as hilarious as
a young man just coming
to his majority. That is right.
There is no use in moping down
the decline of life. I never was
more busy, ~~no less~~ ^{more more} merry than
I have been since I declared
myself superannuated.

If I am on the way to second
childhood, it seems as if I
had come to a second youth,
which, of course, would be
a stage in the reversed order.

But more of this when I
see you.

I do congratulate you and

Indeed you have been lifted
above Pius IXth. His Holiness
is only a papa - and you, it
seems, are made a grand papa,
- a holier, as well as a higher
position on the scale of human-
ity than that of the autocrat
of the Roman Catholic world.
All hail! to grand papa, and
grandmamma Garrison.

But I cannot allow you
to flatter yourselves that your
grandchildren are compara-
ble to mine. To say nothing
of the older ones - when
Joseph's little son was only
six days old he understood
Latin and Greek as well
as he did English; and could
calculate an eclipse as eas-
ily as he could count ten.
I say not this boastingly -
but more ^{by} to repress the spir-
it of boasting in others.

J. W. R. L.

Leicester

July 11. 1868.

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My very dear Friend,

I am thus far on my way to Boston, accompanied by Miss Estlin, who, with Miss Pugh, has been making us a visit of a week. We reached this "sweet home" yesterday P.M. and, I need not tell you, were most cordially welcomed. I purpose to go to Concord on Monday - to Cambridge on Tuesday - and to Boston not until Thursday afternoon.

But I cannot wait, until I see you, to congratulate you upon your high exaltation, so exultingly announced in your letter of the 7th rec'd the day before I left home.